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EXAMINER

HO, HUY C

ART UNIT

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/533,250

Applicant(s)

RANTAPUSKA, OLLI

Examiner

Huy C. Ho

Art Unit

2617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12/03/2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 April 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/CD/CD)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed **12/03/2007** have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The argued features, i.e., detecting an initiation event for establishing a simulated communication in a terminal device, generating a simulated message related to the determined properties of the initiation event by accessing a standard communication functionality of the terminal device, and presenting the simulated message via the standard communication functionality of the terminal device, read upon Roberts as follows.

Roberts discusses system and method for interaction between a simulated phenomena interaction system SPIS with real physical world or gaming environment. A fat client mobile device comprises a simulation engine, which comprises plurality of hardware and software modules for generating sensed phenomenal events in real world environment and presenting these simulated messages in graphical images or text messages to the user through a device's display screen (see sections [70], [88], see the provisional application, page 1 lines 14-17, page 5 lines 5-11, page 6 lines 5-10, 17-20, 24-25, page 12 figure 3, page 13 lines 15-19, page 21 lines 18-34). Thus, Roberts discloses detecting an initiation event for establishing a simulated communication in a terminal device, generating a simulated message related to the determined properties of the initiation event by accessing a standard communication functionality of the terminal device, and presenting the simulated message via the standard communication functionality of the terminal device.

As a result, the argued features are written such that they read upon the cited reference.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless - (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated over Roberts et al (2004/0002843).

Consider claim 1, (currently amended) Roberts discloses a method (see the abstract), comprising:

Roberts discloses:

detecting an initiation event for establishing a simulated communication in a terminal device (see the abstract, figure 2, pars [12], [41], [68], [69], see the provisional application, page 1 lines 14-17, page 5 lines 5-11, page 6 lines 5-10, 17-20, 24-25, page 12 figure 3, page 13 lines 15-19,).

determining properties of said detected initiation event, generating a simulated message related to said determined properties (see pars [40]-[41], [51], [68]-[70], see the provisional application, page 1 lines 14-17, page 5 lines 5-11, page 6 lines 5-10, 17-20, 24-25, page 12 figure 3, page 13 lines 15-19), by accessing a standard communication functionality of the terminal device (see the abstract, figure 12, pars [41], [63], [65], [70], [104], where Roberts describes the simulation engine is implemented as a fat client and embedded within a mobile client device, indicates values that have been sensed by function device which is a part of the mobile device, thus disclosing accessing a standard communication functionality of the terminal device), said message being generated from data stored in a storage (see figure 10, numbers 1013-1015, pars [64]-[66], describing various data repositories in a device, thus disclosing storage),

presenting said simulated message via said standard communication functionality of the terminal device (pars [92], [96], see the provisional application, page 1 lines 14-17, page 5 lines 5-11, page 6 lines 5-10, 17-20, 24-25, page 12 figure 3, page 13 lines 15-19, page 21 lines 18-34);

wherein said simulated message has the appearance of a typical message of said standard communication functionality (pars [90]-[92], [99], describing the simulation engine interacts with the user device when the user types in not-canned questions in many ways, including changing states of the device, ringing, text, audio, or graphic form, see the provisional application, page 1 lines 14-17, page 5 lines 5-11, page 6 lines 5-10, 17-20, 24-25, page 12 figure 3, page 13 lines 15-19, page 21 lines 18-34).

Consider claim 13, (currently amended) Robarts discloses an apparatus, comprising:

Robarts discloses:

a detection module for detecting an initiation event for establishing a simulated communication (see the abstract, figure 2, pars [12], [41], [68], [69], see the provisional application, page 1 lines 14-17, page 5 lines 5-11, page 6 lines 5-10, 17-20, 24-25, page 12 figure 3, page 13 lines 15-19, page 21 lines 18-34),

a determination module, connected to said detection module for determining properties of said detected initiation event (see pars [11], [40]-[41], [51], [68]-[70], see the provisional application, page 1 lines 14-17, page 5 lines 5-11, page 6 lines 5-10, 17-20, 24-25, page 12 figure 3, page 13 lines 15-19, page 21 lines 18-34),

a storage for storing components of simulated messages (figures 6, 10, pars [65]-[66]),

a generation module, connected to said determination module and to said storage module, for generating simulated messages from said stored components in correspondence with said determined properties (pars [36], [41], [51], [72]), by accessing a standard communication functionality of the terminal device (see the abstract, figure 12, pars [41], [63], [65], [70], [104], wherein Robarts describes the simulation engine is implemented as a fat client and embedded within a client device, indicates values that have been sensed by function device which is a part of the mobile

device, thus disclosing accessing a standard communication functionality of the terminal device),
a communication component for presenting said generated simulated messages (pars [92],
[96]),

wherein said communication component comprises said standard communication functionality
of the apparatus for presenting said generated simulated messages (pars [92], [96], see the
provisional application, page 1 lines 14-17, page 5 lines 5-11, page 6 lines 5-10, 17-20, 24-25, page
12 figure 3, page 13 lines 15-19, page 21 lines 18-34), and

wherein said generated simulated messages have the appearance of a typical messages of said
standard communication functionality (pars [90]-[92], [99], describing the simulation engine
interacts with the user device when the user types in not-canned questions in many ways,
including changing states of the device, ringing, text, audio, or graphic form, see the provisional
application, page 1 lines 14-17, page 5 lines 5-11, page 6 lines 5-10, 17-20, 24-25, page 12 figure
3, page 13 lines 15-19, page 21 lines 18-34).

Consider claim 16, (currently amended) Robarts discloses a network device for providing data
for generating a simulated communication to terminal devices (see the abstract), comprising:

Robarts discloses:

a storage module for storing generation rules for simulated messages, simulated message
components and evaluation rules (figure 10, the abstract, pars [55], [64]-[66]),

a communication module for connecting to said communication network and to said terminal
devices (figures 6, 10, 12, pars [9], [36], [50], [51], [64], [66], [70]), and

a controller connected to said storage module and to said communication module, for selecting
sets of simulated messages components and generation rules for transmitting said selected sets of
simulated message components to said terminal devices (figure 12, pars [36]-[37], [69]-[70]) via a
standard communication functionality of said terminal devices (pars [92], [96]),

wherein said simulated messages have the appearance of typical messages of said standard
communication functionality of said terminal devices (pars [90]-[92], [99]),

wherein said stimulated messages are generated by accessing said standard communication functionality of said terminal devices (the abstract, figure 12, pars [41], [63], [65], [70], [104], see the provisional application, page 1 lines 14-17, page 5 lines 5-11, page 6 lines 5-10, 17-20, 24-25, page 12 figure 3, page 13 lines 15-19, page 21 lines 18-34).

Consider claim 17, (currently amended) Robarts discloses an apparatus, comprising:

Robarts discloses:

means for detecting an initiation event for establishing a simulated communication (the abstract, figure 2, pars [12], [41], [68], [69]),

means, connected to said detection module for determining properties of said detected initiation event (pars [11], [40]-[41], [51], [68]-[70]),

means for storing components of simulated messages (figures 6, 10, pars [65]-[66]),

means, connected to said determination module and to said storage module, for generating simulated messages from said stored component in correspondence with said determined properties (pars [11], [40]-[41], [51], [68]-[70]) by accessing a standard communication functionality of the terminal device (figure 12, pars [41], [63], [65], [70], [104], see the provisional application, page 1 lines 14-17, page 5 lines 5-11, page 6 lines 5-10, 17-20, 24-25, page 12 figure 3, page 13 lines 15-19, page 21 lines 18-34), and

means for presenting said generated simulated messages (pars [92], [96]),

wherein said means for presenting said generated simulated messages comprises said standard communication functionality of the apparatus for presenting said generated simulated messages (pars [90]-[92], [96], [99]), and

wherein said generated simulated message has messages have the appearance of a typical messages of said standard communication functionality (pars [90]-[92], [96], [99]).

Consider claim 2, (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said generating comprises composing said simulated message from said data in correspondence with said determined properties and composing rules stored in said storage (pars [11], [40]-[41], [51], [68]-

[70]).

Consider claim 3, (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, Roberts discloses further comprising opening a timeframe after the detection of said initiation event, and presenting said simulated message after the timeframe has closed (par [60]).

Consider claim 4, (previously presented) as applied to claim 1, Roberts discloses receiving data from a provider, data comprises components, fragments of simulated messages and rules for generating said simulated message (see figure 10, pars [36]-[37], [66], [69]-[70], where Roberts discloses information, attributes and behavior of simulated phenomena, the data stored in the repositories in the simulation engine are available through a web servers, thus discloses receiving data from a provider, data comprises components, fragments of simulated messages and rules for generating said simulated message).

Consider claim 5, (previously presented) as applied to claim 1, Roberts et al. disclose said initiation event is a predetermined point of time (see par [51], where Roberts discloses the simulated phenomena attributes data repository 620 typically stores information that is used to characterize and implement the "behavior" of simulated phenomena, responses to interaction requests, for example, attributes may include values for location, orientation, velocity, direction, acceleration, path, size, duration schedule, type, elasticity, mood, temperament, image, ancestry, or any other seemingly real world or imaginary characteristic of simulated phenomena, thus discloses the initiation event is a predetermined point of time).

Consider claim 6, (previously presented) as applied to claim 1, Roberts et al. disclose said initiation event is defined by a reception of a user input or the reception of a message from a provider (see figures 9, 10, paragraphs [60], [66], where Roberts teaches the mobile device senses values based on the real world environment through an operator input and also teaches information, attributes and behavior of simulated phenomena, the data stored in the repositories in the simulation engine are available through a web servers, thus Roberts teaches said initiation event is defined by a reception of a user input or the reception of a message from a provider).

Consider claim 7, (previously presented) as applied to claim 1, Roberts et al. teach a method of analyzing and evaluating said initiation event (see par [40], where Roberts discloses the simulation engine responds to such indicated requests by determining whether the indicated interaction request is permissible and performing the interaction request if deemed permissible, so discloses a method of analyzing and evaluating said initiation event).

Consider claim 8, (previously presented) as applied to claim 1, Roberts et al. disclose at least one of said simulated messages comprises at least one advertisement (see para [48], where Roberts teaches the mobile user is led by the Simulate Phenomena Integrated System to the desired physical destination and encouraged to engage in desired behavior, such as paying for the ride, by being "rewarded" by the SPIS according to the narrative, such as becoming eligible for some real world prize once the state of the mobile device is shown to a park operator, many other gaming, training, and computer aided learning experiences can be similarly presented and supported using the techniques of a Simulated Phenomena Interaction System, thus discloses said simulated messages comprises at least one advertisement).

Consider claim 9, (previously presented) as applied to claim 1, Roberts et al. teach a software tool comprising program code means stored on a computer readable medium for carrying out the method of claim 1 when said software tool is run on a computer or network device (refer to figure 6, number 601-604, see pars [62], [63], [65], [66], [69] where Roberts discloses a variety software configurations may be used to implement a Simulated Phenomena Interaction System, data formats and code sequences, etc., in order to provide a thorough understanding of the techniques of the methods and systems of the present invention. Other downloaded code and potentially other data repositories also reside in the memory, and preferably execute on one or more CPUs, or network devices such as cell phones, PDAs, GPS, portable computing devices).

Consider claim 10, (previously presented) as applied to claim 1, Roberts et al. teach a computer program product comprising program code means stored on a computer readable medium for carrying out the method of claim 1 when said program product is run on a computer or network device

(refer to figure 6, number 601-604, see pars [62], [63], [65], [66], [69] where Robarts discloses a variety software configurations may be used to implement a Simulated Phenomena Interaction System, data formats and code sequences, etc., in order to provide a thorough understanding of the techniques of the methods and systems of the present invention. Other downloaded code and potentially other data repositories also reside in the memory, and preferably execute on one or more CPUs, or network devices such as cell phones, PDAs, GPS, portable computing devices).

Consider claim 11, (previously presented) as applied to claim 1, Robarts et al. teach a computer program product comprising program code, downloadable from a server for carrying out the method of claim 1 when said program product is run on a computer or network device (refer to figure 6, number 601-604, see pars [62], [63], [65], [66], [69] where Robarts discloses some program code such as C, C++, C# and Java is available for downloaded through web servers, thus teach a computer program product comprising program code, downloadable from a server for carrying out the method of claim 1 when said program product is run on a computer or network device).

Consider claim 12, (previously presented), a computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave and representing a program that instructs a computer to perform the steps of the method of claim 1 (see pars [62], [63], [65], [66], [69]).

Consider claim 14, (previously presented) as applied to claim 13, Robarts et al. disclose an interface module for receiving data comprising components of said simulated messages and generation rules for generating said simulated messages (see figure 11, numbers 1105, 1106, 1102, 1103, 1107, 1108; pars [69], [73], where Robarts discloses input/output devices 1106, a display 1102, network devices 1106 and environment sensors 1103 are used for interacting, communicating or sensing/detecting the simulated phenomena with the simulation engine, thus disclose an interface module for receiving data comprising components of said simulated messages and generation rules for generating said simulated messages).

Consider claim 15, (previously presented) as applied to claim 13, Roberts et al. clearly discloses that the said terminal device comprises a mobile phone (see figure 2, number 201, figure 6, numbers 601, 604).

Consider claim 18, (previously presented) as applied to claim 17, Roberts teaches means for receiving data comprising components of said simulated messages and generation rules for generating said simulated messages (see figure 6, numbers 620-624, figures 8 and 9, figure 12, number 1207 and 1220, see pars [11], [40], [41], [52], [55], [59], [60] and [70]).

Conclusion

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUY C. HO whose telephone number is (571)270-1108. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nick Corsaro can be reached on 571-272-7876. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Nick Corsaro/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 4181